GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3338
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Cold Storages and Cold Chains
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Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched any schemes for setting up of integrated cold chains and cold storages in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the aims, objectives, salient features and criteria fixed and procedure adopted for selecting locations and providing funds for setting up of the same thereunder;

(b) whether the Government has recently launched a web based system for submitting applications seeking financial assistance for setting up of integrated cold chains and cold storages in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these cold storages/cold chains are operating at no profit no loss basis for the benefit of small and marginal farmers and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether these infrastructures also have proper connectivity through various modes of transport including road and rails and if not, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) whether each district in the country does not have adequate facility of cold storage and exorbitant charges are taken from the farmers for using cold storage and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing the Central Sector Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure with the objective of arresting post-harvest losses of horticulture & non-horticulture produce. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided in the form of grant-in-aid of maximum Rs10 crore per project for setting up of integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure facilities without any break from the farm gate to the consumer. The integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure can be set up by individuals, groups of entrepreneurs, cooperative societies, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), NGOs, Central/State PSUs, etc. The scheme is primarily private sector driven and proposals under this scheme are invited through Expression of Interest (EOI). The scheme is available in all States/UTs and rural & urban areas. Ministry has revised the operational guidelines of the Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure with effect from 29.08.2016. Details regarding objectives, salient features and criteria fixed and procedures are given in the revised operational guidelines. The revised operational guidelines are uploaded on the Ministry's Website www.mofpi.nic.in.

In addition, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Horticulture Board (NHB), and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Government of India are also providing assistance for setting up cold storages under their respective schemes.
(b) National Horticulture Board under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has introduced a system for online filing of application on its website www.nhb.gov.in. The home page of the website provides a link "Apply online and Track Status here". After filing online application, applicant can take print out of his online application form. It is necessary for the applicants to fill up and submit the detailed application form in prescribed format apart from online application form.

(c) Integrated cold chain projects assisted by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries under the Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure are mainly set up by private sector promoters. These projects are operating on commercial basis.

(d) The location of the project is decided by the entrepreneur based on technical and financial viability. Ministry however, gives weightage during approval of integrated cold chain projects, to criteria like suitability of project site, availability of raw material, connectivity through road, railways etc.

(e) Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri Committee constituted by the erstwhile Planning Commission in 2012 had indicated cold storage requirement of 61 million tonnes. The available capacity of cold storage was estimated at around 32 million tonnes in the country, thus, the gap being around 29 million tonnes.

National Center for Cold Chain Development (NCCD) under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare had also commissioned a study on "All India Cold Chain Infrastructure Capacity (Assessment of Status & Gap)" conducted by NABARD Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd.(NABCONS). As per the gap study, the cold chain requirement in the

country stands at 35 million tonnes of cold storage vis-a vis available capacity of 32 million tonnes. This study however, excluded the requirement for milk, meat, marine and processed products.

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